



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Fort Worth District

News Release

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Situation Update - Canyon Lake flooding

FORT WORTH, TX – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced today that releases from the Canyon Lake outlet works are expected to begin on or about August 9. Releases have been delayed due to debris removal taking place in the outlet works stilling basin. Officials report that approximately 50,000 cubic yards of rocks and other debris has been removed from the main channel at the confluence with the spillway channel. A significant amount of debris still remains in the main channel and cannot be reached with heavy equipment due to the spillway flow of greater than 1,500 cfs. The strategy at this time is to make enough releases to pull the lake level down to several feet below the spillway. At that point, low releases would be made so that the heavy equipment could continue the removal operation.

The Corps would like to remind downstream residents and business owners to be aware of weather forecasts predicting rain. Canyon Lake is still full and until the lake levels can be lowered again, flood protection between the dam and Victoria cannot be assured.

Currently, there is approximately 1,600 cfs flowing over the spillway. The lake elevation is at 943.8 feet mean sea level, approximately 10 inches over the spillway (943.0 feet). Canyon Dam is performing as designed and is structurally sound.

The Corps' analysis of this event shows that had Canyon Dam not been in place, the flows in the Guadalupe River downstream would have crested three times between July 4

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Canyon Lake flooding

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and July 6, at flows in excess of 80,000 cfs. With the dam in place, the peak flow at New Braunfels on July 5 was approximately 69,300 cfs. Had Canyon Dam not been constructed, flows would have been greater than 126,000 cfs.

Peak flows at Cuero reached 64,700 cfs and 72,600 cfs at Victoria. Without Canyon Dam, flows at Cuero would have been about 103,000 cfs and about 113,000 cfs at Victoria. Initial estimates indicate that damages prevented at New Braunfels were \$38.6 million, \$1.6 million at Cuero and \$6.1 million at Victoria.